

SECTION III:

MITIGATION STRATEGY

III. Mitigation Strategy

INTRODUCTION

This portion of the Plan outlines Hyde County's overall strategy to reduce their community's vulnerability to the effects of natural hazards. It has been separated into the following two distinct sections:

A. Mitigation Objectives

B. Mitigation Actions

The **Mitigation Objectives** are designed to support and correspond directly with the *Community Goals* established in Section II, and were developed to provide Hyde County with some measurable, mid-range targets (2-5 years). Each objective is numbered (i.e., "1.1"), with the first digit representing the corresponding Community Goal.

The **Mitigation Actions** are short-term, specific measures to be undertaken by Hyde County in order to achieve the identified objectives. Most of these actions are also hazard-specific. Each action identifies the objective(s) it is intended to achieve, includes some general background information to justify the proposed action, and provides measures to assure successful and timely implementation.

Also important to note is that each Mitigation Objective and Mitigation Action is designed to be performance-based, making it easier for Hyde County to measure the Plan's progress over time and during the Plan's future evaluations. It is expected that while the *Community Goals* established in Section II may remain the same for an extended period of time, the objectives and actions included in this *Mitigation Strategy* will be updated and/or revised through regular enhancements to this Plan.

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A. MITIGATION OBJECTIVES

- Objective 1.1** Strive to maintain the County's current NFIP/CRS Class Rating and work towards achievement of Class 8 by accomplishing as many feasible portions of the guidelines as possible through enhanced floodplain management activities.
- Objective 1.2** Enhance the County's capability to conduct hazard risk assessments, demonstrate funding needs, and track mitigation activities throughout the county.
- Objective 1.3** Ensure that current emergency services are adequate to protect public health and safety and work towards enhancement of emergency services.
- Objective 2.1** Increase the County's control over development in the floodplain to ensure lives and property are not at risk to future flood conditions.
- Objective 2.2** Preserve the natural and beneficial functions of the county's floodplain, wetlands, beaches and dunes through continued support of natural resource protection policies and by discouraging growth in environmentally-sensitive areas.
- Objective 2.3** Ensure that all new construction is completed using wind-resistant design techniques that will limit damage caused by high winds and reduce the amount of wind-borne debris.
- Objective 3.1** Maximize the use of available hazard mitigation grant programs to protect the County's most vulnerable populations and structures.
- Objective 3.2** Continue to decrease the number of FEMA-identified "repetitive loss properties" located in Hyde County.
- Objective 3.3** Ensure that all vital / critical facilities are protected from the effects of natural hazards to the maximum extent possible.

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- Objective 4.1** Continue to increase the level of knowledge and awareness for Hyde County residents on the hazards that routinely threaten the area through education.
- Objective 4.2** Continue to raise awareness and increase the number of county residents that maintain an active NFIP flood insurance policy.
- Objective 4.3** Educate property owners on the affordable, individual mitigation and preparedness measures that can be taken before the next hazard event.

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B. MITIGATION ACTIONS

In formulating this Mitigation Strategy, a wide range of activities were considered in order to help achieve the goals of the community and to lessen the vulnerability of Hyde County to the effects of natural hazards. In general, all of these activities fall into one of the following broad categories of mitigation techniques.

Available Mitigation Techniques

1. Prevention

Preventative activities are intended to keep hazard problems from getting worse. They are particularly effective in reducing a community's future vulnerability, especially in areas where development has not occurred or capital improvements have not been substantial. Examples of preventative activities include:

- Planning and Zoning
- Open space preservation
- Floodplain regulations
- Stormwater management
- Drainage system maintenance
- Capital improvements programming
- Shoreline / riverine / fault zone setbacks

2. Property Protection

Property protection measures protect existing structures by modifying the building to withstand hazardous events, or removing structures from hazardous locations. Examples include:

- Acquisition
- Relocation
- Building elevation
- Critical facilities protection
- Retrofitting (i.e., windproofing, floodproofing, seismic design standards, etc.)
- Insurance
- Safe rooms

3. Natural Resource Protection

Natural resource protection activities reduce the impact of natural hazards by preserving or restoring natural areas and their mitigative functions. Such areas include floodplains, wetlands and dunes. Parks, recreation or conservation agencies and organizations often implement these measures. Examples include:

- Floodplain protection
- Beach and dune preservation
- Riparian buffers
- Fire resistant landscaping
- Fuel Breaks
- Erosion and sediment control
- Wetland preservation and restoration

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- Habitat preservation
- Slope stabilization

4. Structural Projects

Structural mitigation projects are intended to lessen the impact of a hazard by modifying the environmental natural progression of the hazard event. They are usually designed by engineers and managed or maintained by public works staff. Examples include:

- Reservoirs
- Levees / dikes / floodwalls / seawalls
- Diversions / Detention / Retention
- Channel modification
- Beach nourishment
- Storm sewers

5. Emergency Services

Although not typically considered a "mitigation technique," emergency service measures do minimize the impact of a hazard event on people and property. These commonly are actions taken immediately prior to, during, or in response to a hazard event. Examples include:

- Warning systems
- Evacuation planning and management
- Sandbagging for flood protection
- Installing shutters for wind protection

6. Public Information and Awareness

Public Information and awareness activities are used to advise residents, business owners, potential property buyers, and visitors about hazards, hazardous areas, and mitigation techniques they can use to protect themselves and their property. Examples of measures to educate and inform the public include:

- Outreach projects
- Speaker series / demonstration events
- Hazard map information
- Real estate disclosure
- Library materials
- School children education
- Hazard expositions

Mitigation Techniques for Hyde County

In considering the appropriate mitigation techniques for Hyde County to undertake, the Mitigation Advisory Committee reviewed the three (3) background studies provided as appendices to this Plan. Following this review and a group discussion, the following matrix was completed by the Committee in order to target the Plan's priorities for proposed mitigation actions:

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Mitigation Technique	HIGH RISK HAZARDS		MODERATE RISK HAZARDS		
	<i>Hurricanes, Tropical Storms & Coastal Storms</i>	<i>Flooding</i>	<i>Wildfires & Other Fires</i>	<i>Severe Thunderstorms</i>	<i>Tornadoes</i>
Prevention		X	X		
Property Protection	X	X	X	X	X
Natural Resource Protection	X	X	X		
Structural Projects	X	X	X		
Emergency Services	X	X	X	X	X
Public Information & Awareness	X	X	X	X	X

HYDE COUNTY MITIGATION ACTIONS

The mitigation actions proposed for Hyde County to undertake are listed on the pages that follow. Each has been designed to achieve the goals and objectives identified through this Hazard Mitigation Plan. Each proposed action includes:

- (1) the appropriate category for the mitigation technique;
- (2) the hazard it is designed to mitigate;
- (3) the objective(s) it is intended to help achieve;
- (4) some general background information;
- (5) the priority level for its implementation (high, moderate or low);

The procedure for prioritizing was voted on by the Hyde County Mitigation Advisory Committee giving each Action a priority. All actions listed as

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High priority are defined as Higher Risk, Moderate priority is defined as Medium Risk, and Low Priority is defined in the plan as completed.

- (6) potential funding sources, if applicable;
- (7) the agency/person assigned responsibility for carrying out the strategy;
- (8) a target completion date.

Again, it is important to note that these mitigation actions are short-term, specific measures to be undertaken by Hyde County. It is expected this component of the Plan will be the most dynamic; it will be used as the primary indicator to measure the Plan's progress over time and will be routinely updated and/or revised through future planning efforts.

Prior Action #1, Develop, was incorporated into Hyde County's Flood Prevention Ordinance.

The Hyde County updated prioritization process will include an emphasis on the use of a Cost/Benefit Review to maximize benefits of each Mitigation Action.

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ACTION #1

Develop and adopt a “no-rise (in base flood elevation)” clause for the county’s Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

Category:	Prevention
Hazard:	Flood
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.1, 2.1, 2.2
Background:	Many floodplain permitting systems, including those that meet National Flood Insurance Program standards, allow projects outside the floodway to increase base flood elevations by up to one foot. While this may not represent a significant increase for just one project, the cumulative impact of a number of projects in the same floodplain can be significant. By prohibiting any rise throughout the 100-year floodplain, a “no rise” clause ensures that the cumulative impact of multiple permitted projects will not cause flood elevations to rise to unacceptable levels. This action was completed on 11/6/2006.
Priority:	Low
Funding Sources:	N/A
Responsibility Assigned to:	CRS Coordinator
Target Completion Date:	Completed

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ACTION #2

Advertise and promote the availability of flood insurance to county property owners by including information in all building permit applications, displaying information in County Inspections Department and adding information to the County website.

Category:	Public Information and Awareness
Hazard:	Hurricanes, Tropical Storms, Coastal Storms, Flood
Objective(s) Addressed:	4.1, 4.2, 4.3
Background:	Hyde County joined the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) on February 4, 1987. NFIP flood insurance policies protect property owners by offering affordable rates for protecting both structures and contents. Building Inspections office is continuously revising information and making the public aware by displaying information and recording information on the building permit applications. This is an ongoing practice done by the County on a regular basis.
Priority:	High
Funding Sources:	Local
Responsibility Assigned to:	CRS Coordinator
Target Completion Date:	Continuous (Hyde County began including this information in the Building Permit Applications in February 2008)

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ACTION #3

Continue to support and work towards completion of the construction of the Swan Quarter “mosquito” dike to alleviate future flood hazard conditions.

Category:	Structural Projects
Hazard:	Hurricanes, Tropical Storms, Coastal Storms, Flood
Objective(s) Addressed:	3.1, 3.3
Background:	The 2002 Multihazard Mitigation plan included the following action, “Investigate the feasibility and funding availability for the construction of the Swan Quarter “mosquito” dike to alleviate future flood hazard conditions.” Construction has now been completed up through Phase 11 and Phase 12 has been initiated. Phase 11 included construction of a floodwall system along NC45 west of Swan Quarter approximately 2500 lineal feet. The funding for Phase 12 of the dike has been approved and has gone out to bid. The expected completion date for Phase 12 is December of 2009. Phase 13 and 14 are needed to complete the dike with expected funding from the stimulus in the amount of 6,000,000. Targeted completion date is December of 2011.
Priority:	High
Funding Sources:	US Department of Agriculture through the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the NC Division Of Soil and Water Conservation
Responsibility Assigned to:	The Natural Resources Conservation Service and the NC Division Of Soil and Water Conservation.
Target Completion Date:	December 2011

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ACTION #4

Seek funding to complete a stormwater drainage study/plan for both Mainland Hyde and the village of Ocracoke that will lead to a stormwater management ordinance.

Category:	Prevention
Hazard:	Hurricanes, Tropical Storms, Coastal Storms, Flood
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.2
Background:	A stormwater drainage study/plan will identify drainage problems and address solutions through detention, retention, and drainage system maintenance among other specific mitigation measures. At this time no action to seek funding has been made due to all necessary recourses have been focused on the competition of the Swan Quarter Dike.
Priority:	Moderate
Funding Sources:	NC Division of Coastal Management; NC Division of Emergency Management.
Responsibility Assigned to:	Planner
Target Completion Date:	Continuous

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ACTION #5

Continue to support and develop the Geographic Information System (GIS) to maintain current cadastral (building/parcel) data for purposes of conducting more detailed hazard risk assessments and for tracking permitting / land use patterns.

Category:	Prevention
Hazard:	All
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.2, 1.3, 2.3, 3.1, 3.3
Background:	Hyde County is currently utilizing geographic information system (GIS) to update 9-1-1 related data (addresses, centerlines, etc.). The county emergency dispatch center is using the GIS to more accurately locate emergency response calls and provide more detailed information about the 9-1-1 caller's location to emergency personnel. Also the GIS system will enhance the tax system as well, providing an opportunity for citizens to access the most up to date tax information possessed by the county. The Hyde County Emergency Services Department is currently handling all GIS maintenance for the county. GIS system is fully functional and currently being used by multiple departments in the County Government. Updates and improvements to the GIS system will be continual.
Priority:	High
Funding Sources:	NC Division of Emergency Management.
Responsibility Assigned to:	Hyde Department of Emergency Management.
Target Completion Date:	Completed April 2008

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ACTION #6

Continue to collect educational materials on individual and family preparedness/mitigation measures for property owners, and display at both the library and routinely-visited county offices.

Category:	Public Information & Awareness
Hazard:	All
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.1, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3
Background:	FEMA, the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management, the National Weather Service and other agencies provide information brochures and pamphlets on property protection measures at no cost to local governments. The Hyde County Department of Emergency Management and Department of Building Inspections has also created localized informational materials which were distributed out in the mail after Hurricane Isabel to every house in the flood zone. They are also mailed out with building permits. They are displayed in the Building Inspections office along with other safety information on a display table by the entrance door. This information is produced as updates are provided and will continue on an ongoing basis.
Priority:	High
Funding Sources:	N/A
Responsibility Assigned to:	Building Inspector
Target Completion Date:	Continuous

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ACTION #7

Continue to acquire and preserve parcels of land subject to repetitive flooding from willing and voluntary property owners.

Category:	Property Protection
Hazard:	Flood
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2
Background:	<p>Land acquisition is an effective mitigation technique to permanently eliminate the potential for damages from future flood events. Hyde County has successfully applied for and received grant funding to acquire floodprone parcels of land in the past from voluntary and willing property owners. Hyde County is currently participating in FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Acquisition of the following properties were purchased under HMGP 1448-0088 program: 225 NC 45, Swan Quarter; 165 Oyster Creek Rd, Swan Quarter; 1341 Radar Rd, Engelhard; 59 Roper Ln, Engelhard. The 5 required deed restrictions by FEMA are in place regarding the re-use of these properties. This includes regulations regarding Land Use, Structures, Assistance, Conveyance and Term and Binding Effect. All legal questions regarding these deed restrictions, can be directed to Sid Hassell, who completed the deeds for the County and Program. These Deeds are in compliance with FEMA regulations. This project is closed-out.</p>
Priority:	High
Funding Sources:	FEMA; NC Division of Emergency Management
Responsibility Assigned to:	CRS Coordinator
Target Completion Date:	Completed

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ACTION #8

Regularly calculate and document the amount of floodprone property that is preserved as open space for additional credit points under the Community Rating System (CRS).

Category:	Prevention
Hazard:	Flood
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.1
Background:	CRS credit is given for areas that are permanently preserved as open space. Although credit is not given for federal lands, Hyde County maintains (and continues to expand) floodplain areas preserved as open space through land acquisition projects (i.e., HMGP) which protect parcels from development through deed restrictions. Hyde County also has large amounts of floodplain land within state parks or otherwise preserved as wildlife and natural preserves, which does qualify for additional CRS credit. The following properties were acquired: 225 NC 45, Swan Quarter; 165 oyster Creek Rd, Swan Quarter; 1341 Radar Rd, Engelhard; 59 Roper Ln, Engelhard. No additional properties are scheduled to be acquired without another Flood Event. However, if the Building Inspections office identifies potential Acquisition properties, an application can be submitted for Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM). This is a very competitive process where funds are less available than after a flood event.
Priority:	High
Funding Sources:	N/A
Responsibility Assigned to:	CRS Coordinator
Target Completion Date:	Continuous

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ACTION #9

Evaluate the potential mitigation techniques for protecting each critical facility to the maximum extent possible including all new facilities.

Category:	Prevention
Hazard:	All
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.2, 3.1, 3.3
Background:	A thorough evaluation of potential mitigation opportunities for Hyde County's critical facilities should be completed. An inventory on critical facilities has been created and maintained by the County and included in the Emergency Operations Plan. This inventory includes information on the location of each facility in GPS coordinates. Hyde County is continuing to gather information including risk levels and hazards for each critical facility and document any cost-effective mitigation techniques to consider when funding becomes available.
Priority:	Moderate
Funding Sources:	N.C. Division of Emergency Management
Responsibility Assigned to:	Emergency Manager
Target Completion Date:	Continuous

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ACTION #10

Establish a local reserve fund for repairing and/or incorporating hazard mitigation measures for public facilities and infrastructure damaged by natural hazards.

Category:	Prevention
Hazard:	All
Objective(s) Addressed:	3.1, 3.3
Background:	Not all hazard events will receive disaster declarations by the State or Federal government, limiting the amount of post-disaster assistance for local governments for certain events. Further, State and Federal disaster assistance programs could likely require local matching funds of up to 25%. A local reserve fund should ensure Hyde County is prepared to quickly recover/rebuild from hazard events and maximize possible funding opportunities. The fund has not been established due to the economic climate. Hyde County will be looking at putting revenue aside in order to begin establishing a base.
Priority:	Moderate
Funding Sources:	N/A
Responsibility Assigned to:	Finance Office, Emergency Manager, County Manager
Target Completion Date:	June 01, 2013

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ACTION #11

Conduct inventory/survey for the county's emergency response services to identify any existing needs or shortfalls in terms of personnel, equipment or required resources, including funding for public safety services.

Category:	Emergency Services
Hazard:	All
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.3
Background:	A survey should be completed in order to ensure the county's current emergency services are adequate to protect public health and safety from anticipated hazard events. Any identified needs or shortfalls should become documented and result in specific recommendations to the County Manager for emergency service enhancements. While Hyde County has continuously worked towards increasing services by adding paramedic level services and building a mainland EMS station, a formal survey has not been completed. Recent staff changes at the executive level will slow the process of conducting the survey. When a full time ES director is appointed a survey will be completed to move forward with an improvement plan.
Priority:	Moderate
Funding Sources:	Local
Responsibility Assigned to:	Emergency Manager
Target Completion Date:	June 1, 2010

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ACTION #12

Formally review the county's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance and continually revise on a 3 year cycle.

Category:	Prevention
Hazard:	Flood
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.1, 2.1, 2.2
Background:	The County's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance should be formally reviewed by a committee headed up by the CRS Coordinator and Emergency Manager. At this time, revisions can be made to better suit the Needs of Hyde County. After initial revision, the Ordinance should be reviewed and revised every three Years. Ordinance was last reviewed and revised on October 6, 2006 and the next scheduled date will be October 6, 2009.
Priority:	Moderate
Funding Sources:	N/A
Responsibility Assigned to:	CRS Coordinator and Emergency Manager
Target Completion Date:	October 6, 2009

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ACTION #13

Continue to update educational flyers targeting NFIP policyholders on the Increased Costs of Compliance (ICC) coverage, to be disseminated following a flood event that results in substantial damage determinations by the county.

Category:	Public Information and Awareness
Hazard:	Flood
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 4.3
Background:	Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) under the NFIP provides for the payment of a claim to help pay for the cost to comply with State or community floodplain management laws or ordinances from a flood event in which a building has been declared substantially damaged. When an insured building is damaged by a flood and the State or community declares the building to be substantially damaged, ICC will help pay for the cost to elevate, floodproof, demolish or relocate the building up to \$30,000. This coverage is in addition to the building coverage for the repair of actual physical damages from the flood. Hyde County has developed a Flood Awareness flyer giving information on such issues as Flood Safety, Flood Warning Systems, Improvements, Property Protection, Flood Insurance, and Floodplain Development Permitting. The flyer along with a letter is sent out to residents residing in flood prone areas and is also available for all residents in the Inspections office. There has been no documented response from the public regarding the flyer. The information flyer is updated on a continuous basis to give accurate information.
Priority:	Moderate
Funding Sources:	Local
Responsibility Assigned to:	CRS Coordinator
Target Completion Date:	Continuous

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ACTION #14

Incorporate the inspection and management of hazardous trees into the county's routine drainage system maintenance process.

Category:	Property Protection
Hazard:	Hurricanes, Tropical Storms, Coastal Storms
Objective(s) Addressed:	2.3, 3.3
Background:	<p>A significant amount of property damage during high wind events results from tree failure. Trees that fall into utility lines have additional serious consequences such as causing power outages, surges, fires and other damage. Fallen trees can also seriously threaten contamination and disruption of the County water system. If a tree uproots and breaks the water line there is a threat of bacteriological contamination. The county's ability to recognize and prevent hazardous tree conditions (through inspection, pruning or removal) is the best defense against problems and costly damages resulting from tree failure. Specifically, trees located on county property which pose immediate threats to property, utility lines and other critical facilities are surveyed and steps are taken to remove threats.</p>
Priority:	Moderate
Funding Sources:	Local
Responsibility Assigned to:	Hyde County Soil & Water Conservation and Hyde County Water System
Target Completion Date:	Continuous

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ACTION #15

Continue to contact all owners of FEMA-identified repetitive loss properties and inform them of the assistance available through the federal Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, in addition to other flood protection measures.

Category:	Public Information & Awareness
Hazard:	Flood
Objective(s) Addressed:	3.1, 3.2, 4.3
Background:	Hyde County's listing of FEMA-identified repetitive loss properties is maintained and regularly updated by the CRS Coordinator. Each of these properties are targeted by FEMA and the State of North Carolina for Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) funding, which will fund up to 75% of a mitigation project to eliminate future flood risk (usually through elevation or acquisition or relocation). FMA funds are awarded on an annual basis by FEMA. Eligible property owners will be contacted every year to promote the availability of the FMA funding and to determine their level of interest in applying for the program. All properties must be NFIP insured at the time of application to the FMA, RFC or SRL programs.
Priority:	High
Funding Sources:	Local
Responsibility Assigned to:	CRS Coordinator
Target Completion Date:	Continuous

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ACTION #16

Continue to augment the enforcement of the State Building Code and related county ordinances by encouraging wind-resistant design techniques for new residential construction during the county's permit process.

Category:	Property Protection
Hazard:	Hurricanes and Tropical Storms, Tornadoes, Nor'easters
Objective(s) Addressed:	2.3
Background:	Although the State Building Code and local ordinances require certain building practices for wind loss reduction, experts agree that structures built to exceed high wind provisions have a much greater chance of surviving violent wind storms. Additional techniques include adding protection for windows (i.e., shutters), anchoring door frames with multiple hinges, stiffening garage doors with additional bracing, reinforcing masonry chimneys with vertical steel, and strengthening connections between walls and the roof with hurricane straps and ties. These techniques should be promoted to building contractors and homebuyers by the county for all new residential construction, to the maximum extent possible during the building permit process. In the past 5 years, wind resistant techniques have been applied to all new construction. No retrofitting has been done to this date as the inspector can recommend but not force home owners to comply.
Priority:	High
Funding Sources:	N/A
Responsibility Assigned to:	Building Inspector
Target Completion Date:	Continuous

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ACTION #17

Amend the county's Manufactured Housing and Travel Trailer Park Ordinance to require tornado shelters for any new major manufactured/mobile home park with more than 30 mobile home spaces.

Category:	Property Protection
Hazard:	Tornadoes
Objective(s) Addressed:	2.3
Background:	Mobile homes are particularly vulnerable to damage from high winds. Residents, even those who live in mobile homes with tie-downs, should seek safe shelter when a tornado threatens. Tornado shelters should be constructed in major mobile home parks to ensure a safe place for residents to go during a tornado event. The shelter structure, which should be designed to withstand a minimum of 120mph winds, could easily serve an alternate purpose such as a community center, laundry facility, etc. Tornado shelters should be for last minute protection for high wind events but not serve as emergency shelters for other events such as hurricanes and tropical storms. Action not completed due to staffing.
Priority:	Moderate
Funding Sources:	N/A
Responsibility Assigned to:	Planner
Target Completion Date:	June 1, 2011

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ACTION #18

Annually provide public hazard information for the residents of Hyde County, in combination with the “Engelhard Seafood” festival on the Mainland and the “Ocracoke” festival on Ocracoke Island or another appropriate community event.

Category:	Public Information & Awareness
Hazard:	All
Objective(s) Addressed:	4.1, 4.3
Background:	A hazard workshop for county residents should be added to an established community event drawing large crowds. The workshop should be geared toward educating them on the hazards which threaten Hyde County, and the mitigation and preparedness measures available to protect them. Guest speakers from the National Weather Service, the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management, and other relevant agencies should be invited to attend, and educational displays/handouts should be provided such as Flood Insurance Rate Maps, storm surge inundation maps, FEMA publications, hurricane tracking charts, safety tips, etc. Hyde County has not conducted any hazardous workshops for county residents as of yet.
Priority:	Moderate
Funding Sources:	Local
Responsibility Assigned to:	Chamber of Commerce
Target Completion Date:	Continuous

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ACTION #19

Continue to update the local emergency evacuation plan for the Village of Ocracoke in coordination with the North Carolina Department of Transportation, North Carolina Division of Emergency Management and other appropriate agencies.

Category:	Emergency Services
Hazard:	Hurricanes and Tropical Storms
Objective(s) Addressed:	1.3
Background:	The number of people in the Village of Ocracoke swells during the peak months of hurricane season. During past storm events, large numbers of residents did not leave the island despite mandatory evacuation orders. The island becomes isolated during and following storm events, as NCDOT's ferry service is discontinued and roads become closed, overwashed or otherwise impassible. A plan has been prepared to not only ensure the orderly evacuation of the island, but to recommend specific strategies for encouraging people to take evacuation orders more seriously. The plan includes procedures for access to the island during an emergency and re-entry when the emergency is over. This plan is continually reviewed to ensure an update plan with each new hurricane season.
Priority:	Moderate
Funding Sources:	N/A
Responsibility Assigned to:	Emergency Manager, in coordination with the Village of Ocracoke.
Target Completion Date:	Continuous